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Missouri Office of Information Technology

Vulnerability Assessment Methodology	**Document Number:** **ITGS0011**
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1.0 Purpose

This assessment is intended to provide state agencies with a way to determine the current status of security programs and controls in order to make informed judgments and investments that appropriately mitigate risks to an acceptable level.

2.0 Scope

Missouri State Agencies must annually complete a vulnerability assessment using the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Special Publication (SP) 800-26, Security Self-Assessment Guide for Information Technology Systems, and submit a completed copy to the Office of Information Technology in the first quarter of the calendar year. Each agency may choose to perform the assessment themselves or contract with an independent 3rd party as identified by the established state of Missouri contracts.

Do not distribute the assessment based on public request. This assessment is exempt from public disclosure based on RSMo Chapter 610, Section 610.021 Sub-Paragraph (20) which states:

610.021 Except to the extent disclosure is otherwise required by law, a public governmental body is authorized to close meetings, records and votes, to the extent they relate to the following:

> (20) Records that identify the configuration of components or the operation of a computer, computer system, computer network, or telecommunications network, and would allow unauthorized access to or unlawful disruption of a computer, computer system, computer network, or telecommunications network of a public governmental body.

3.0 Background

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) have issued a Vulnerability Self-Assessment Guide for Information Technology Systems. This self-assessment guide utilizes an extensive questionnaire containing specific control objectives and techniques against which a group of interconnected systems can be tested and measured. Performing this assessment and mitigating any of the weaknesses found in the assessment is one way to determine if the system and the information are adequately secured.

4.0 References

4.1 Executive Orders
03-26 Authorizes the OIT to coordinate information technology initiatives for the state
http://sos.mo.gov/library/reference/orders/2003/eo03_026.asp
02-15 Establishes the Missouri Security Council
http://www.sos.mo.gov/library/reference/orders/2002/eo02_015.asp
03-25 Designates OIT as principle forum to improve cyber security policies and procedures
http://sos.mo.gov/library/reference/orders/2003/eo03_025.asp

4.2 Cyber Security Committee Report
February 7, 2003
June 3, 2003

4.3 March 26, 2003 ITAB Meeting Minutes
http://oit.mo.gov/itab/minutes/ab_03_03.pdf

4.4 NIST SP 800-26 Security Self-Assessment Guide for Information Technology Systems
http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/nistpubs/index.html

5.0 Revision History

Date	Description of Change
03/25/2004	Initial Standard Published

6.0 Definitions

Refer to ITAB Security Glossary and Acronyms:
http://siipc.mo.gov/PortalVB/DesktopDefault.aspx?tabindex=7&tabid=8

7.0 Distribution

This document will be distributed to the following:

Cabinet Members
Elected Officials
State Court Administrator
Senate Administrator
Chief Clerk

8.0 Inquiries

Direct inquiries about this document to:

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